

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION Arizona Corporation Commission 2 WILLIAM A. MUNDELL DOCKETED **CHAIRMAN** 3 JIM IRVIN OCT 3 0 2001 **COMMISSIONER** 4 MARC SPITZER **DOCKETED BY** COMMISSIONER 5 DOCKET NO. T-03940A-00-0771 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF 6 LIGHTSOURCE TELECOM I, LLC FORMERLY DECISION NO. 64178 KNOWN AS DYNAMIC TELECOM ENGINEERING I, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE 8 COMPETITIVE FACILITIES-BASED AND **OPINION AND ORDER** RESOLD LOCAL EXCHANGE, INTEREXCHANGE, AND EXCHANGE ACCESS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES. 10 DATE OF HEARING: May 30, 2001 11 PLACE OF HEARING: Phoenix, Arizona 12 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mr. Stephen Gibelli 13 APPEARANCES: Mr. James Muskovitz, Senior Counsel, on behalf of 14 LightSource Telecom I, LLC: 15 Ms. Teena Wolfe, Staff Attorney, Legal Division, on behalf of the Utilities Division of the Arizona 16 Corporation Commission. 17 BY THE COMMISSION: 18 Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the 19 Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that: 20 FINDINGS OF FACT LightSource Telecom I, LLC formerly Dynamic Telcom Engineering I, LLC 21 1. ("LightSource" or "Applicant") is an Ohio Limited Liability Company, authorized to do business in 22 23 Arizona since 2000. 24 On October 2, 2000, LightSource filed with the Commission an application for a 2. 25 Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("Certificate") to provide competitive facilities-based and

resold local exchange, interexchange, and exchange access telecommunications services in Arizona.

On November 2, 2000, LightSource filed an update to its application.

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On January 22, 2001, the Commission's Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") filed its Staff

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Report, which recommended approval of the application and included a number of additional recommendations.

- 5. On January 30, 2001, a Procedural Order was issued scheduling the matter for hearing on May 30, 2001.
- On April 10, 2001, LightSource filed an Affidavit of Publication indicating 6. compliance with the Commission's notice requirements.
- Pursuant to the Commission's January 30, 2001 Procedural Order, a hearing was held 7. on May 30, 2001, and LightSource and Staff presented evidence.
- 8. On June 4, 2001, the Applicant filed a letter indicating that it has changed its name from Dynamic Telcom Engineering I, LLC to LightSource Telecom I, LLC.
- The management of LightSource has many years of experience in the 9. telecommunications industry.
- LightSource has the technical capability to provide the services that are proposed in its 10. application.
- Currently there are several incumbent providers of local exchange telecommunications 11. services in the service territory requested by Applicant, and at least several other entities have been authorized to provide competitive local exchange services in all or portions of that territory.
  - It is appropriate to classify all of LightSource's authorized services as competitive. 12.
- The Staff Report stated that LightSource has no market power and the reasonableness 13. of its rates would be evaluated in a market with numerous competitors.
- According to Staff, LightSource has submitted a summary of the audited financial 14. statements of its parent company for the year ended December 31, 1999. These financial statements list assets of \$681,735 and total shareholders' equity of \$597,394. Staff believes that LightSource lacks sufficient financial strength to offer the requested telecommunications services in Arizona absent the procurement of a performance bond.
- Staff recommends that LightSource's application for a Certificate to provide 15. competitive facilities-based and resold local exchange, interexchange, and access telecommunications services be granted subject to the conditions that:

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- (a) unless it provides services solely through the use of its own facilities, LightSource procure an Interconnection Agreement before being allowed to offer local exchange service;
- (b) LightSource file with the Commission, within 30 days of an Order in this matter, its plan to have its customers telephone numbers included in the incumbent's Directories and Directory Assistance databases;
- (c) LightSource pursue permanent number portability arrangements with other LECs pursuant to Commission rules, federal laws and federal rules;
- (d) LightSource abide by and participate in the AUSF mechanism instituted in Decision No. 59623, dated April 24, 1996 (Docket No. RT-T-03908A-00-0559E-95-0498);
- (e) LightSource abide by the quality of service standards that were approved by the Commission for USWC in Docket No. T-0151B-93-0183;
- (f) in areas where LightSource is the sole provider of local exchange pervice facilities, LightSource provide customers with access to alternative providers of service pursuant to the provisions of Commission rules, federal laws and federal rules;
- (g) LightSource certify, through the 911 service provider in the area in which it intends to provide service, that all issues associated with the provision of 911 service have been resolved with the emergency service providers within 30 days of an Order in this matter;
- (h) LightSource abide by all the Commission decisions and policies regarding CLASS services;
- (i) LightSource provide 2-PIC equal access;
- (j) LightSource certify that all notification requirements have been completed by filing appropriate affidavits prior to a final determination in this proceeding;
- (k) notify the Commission immediately upon changes to LightSource's address or telephone number;
- (l) LightSource comply with all Commission rules, orders, and other requirements relevant to the provision of intrastate telecommunications service;
- (m)LightSource maintain its accounts and records as required by the Commission;
- (n) LightSource file with the Commission all financial and other reports that the Commission may require, and in a form and at such times as the Commission may designate;
- (o) LightSource maintain on file with the Commission all current tariffs and rates, and any service standards that the Commission may require;
- (p) LightSource cooperate with the commission investigations of customer complaints; and,
- (q) LightSource participate in and contribute to a universal service fund, as required by the Commission.

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- 16. Staff further recommended that LightSource's tariffs be approved on an interim basis subject to the following:
  - (a) That LightSource file conforming tariffs within 30 days of an Order in this matter, and in accordance with the Decision;
  - (b) That LightSource should be required to file in this Docket, within 18 months of the date it first provides service following certification, sufficient information for Staff analysis and recommendation for a fair value finding, as well as for an analysis and recommendation for permanent tariff approval. This information must include, at a minimum, the following:
    - 1. A dollar amount representing the total revenue for the first twelve months of telecommunications service provided to Arizona customers by LightSource following certification, adjusted to reflect the maximum rates that LightSource has requested in its tariff. This adjusted total revenue figure could be calculated as the number of units sold for all services offered times the maximum charge per unit.
    - 2. The total actual operating expenses for the first twelve months of telecommunications service provided to Arizona customers by LightSource following certification.
    - 3. The value of all assets, listed by major category, including a description of the assets, used for the first twelve months of local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services provided to Arizona customers by LightSource following certification. Assets are not limited to plant and equipment. Items such as office equipment and office supplies should be included in this list.
  - (c) LightSource's failure to meet the condition to timely file sufficient information for a fair value finding and analysis and recommendation of permanent tariffs shall result in the expiration of the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity and of the tariffs.
  - 17. In order to protect LightSource's Arizona customers, Staff is also recommending that:
    - LightSource procure a performance bond equal to \$100,000. The minimum bond amount of \$100,000 should be increased if at any time it would be insufficient to cover prepayments or deposits collected from LightSource's customers;
    - (b) if LightSource desires to discontinue service, it should file an application with the Commission pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107;

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(c) LightSource should be required to notify each of its customers and the Commission 60 days prior to filing an application to discontinue service pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107; and any failure to do so should result in forfeiture of LightSource's performance bend;

- (d) proof of the performance bond should be docketed within 90 days of an Order in this matter or 30 days prior to the provision of service, whichever comes first, and must remain in effect; however
- (e) if at some time in the future LightSource's financial outlook improves,
  LightSource can file a request for cancellation of its established performance
  bond. Such request should be accompanied by information demonstrating
  LightSource's financial ability. Upon receipt of such filing and after Staff
  review, Staff will forward its recommendation to the Commission.
- 18. On August 29, 2000, the Court of Appeals, Division One, ("Court") issued its Opinion in Cause No. 1 CA-CV 98-0672 ("Opinion"). The Court determined that Article XV, Section 14 of the Arizona Constitution requires the Commission to "determine fair value rate base ("FVRB") for all public service corporations in Arizona prior to setting their rates and charges."
- 19. On October 26, 2000, the Commission filed a Petition for Review to the Arizona Supreme Court.
- 20. On February 13, 2001, the Commission's Petition was granted. However, at this time we are going to request FVRB information to insure compliance with the Constitution should the ultimate decision of the Supreme Court affirm the Court's interpretation of Section 14. We also are concerned that the cost and complexity of FVRB determinations must not offend the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Applicant is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Applicant and the subject matter of the application.
  - 3. Notice of the application was given in accordance with the law.
- 4. A.R.S. § 40-282 allows a telecommunications company to file an application for a Certificate to provide competitive telecommunications services.

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- 5. Pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution as well as the Arizona Revised Statutes, it is in the public interest for Applicant to provide the telecommunications services set forth in its application.
- 6. LightSource is a fit and proper entity to receive a Certificate authorizing it to provide competitive facilities-based and resold local exchange, interexchange, and access telecommunications services in Arizona as conditioned by Staff's recommendations as modified below.
- 7. The telecommunications services that the Applicant intends to provide are competitive within Arizona.
- 8. Pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution as well as the Competitive Rules, it is just and reasonable and in the public interest for Applicant to establish rates and charges which are not less than the Applicant's total service long-run incremental costs of providing the competitive services approved herein.
- 9. Staff's recommendations in Findings of Fact Nos. 15, 16, and 17 are reasonable and should be adopted, in addition to further orders below.

## **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application of LightSource Telecom I, LLC for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for authority to provide competitive facilities-based and resold local exchange, interexchange, and exchange access telecommunications services in Arizona shall be, and is hereby, granted, as conditioned herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that LightSource shall procure a performance bond equal to \$100,000. The minimum bond amount of \$100,000 shall be increased if at any time it would be insufficient to cover prepayments or deposits collected from LightSource's customers. If LightSource desires to discontinue service, it should file an application with the Commission pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107. LightSource shall notify each of its customers and the Commission 60 days prior to filing an application to discontinue service pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107 and any failure to do so shall result in forfeiture of LightSource's performance bond. Proof of the performance bond shall be docketed within 90 days of an Order in this matter or 30 days prior to the provision of service, whichever comes first, and must remain in effect. However, after one year of

operation under the Certificate granted by the Commission, LightSource can file a request for cancellation of its established performance bond. Such request should be accompanied by 2 information demonstrating LightSource's financial ability. Upon receipt of such filing and after Staff 3 review, Staff will forward its recommendation to the Commission. 4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that LightSource Telecom I, LLC shall comply with all of the 5 Staff recommendations set forth in Findings of Fact Nos. 15, 16, and 17. 6 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately. 7 BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION. 8 9 10 COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER CHAIRMAN 11 12 13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have 14 hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, 15 this 30 day of Oatober, 2001. 16 17 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY 18 19 DISSENT SG:dap 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

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DECISION NO. <u>64178</u>